

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I missed some votes on June 23rd and June 24th, 2004. Had I been able to, I would have voted:

June 23—"No" on the Boehlert amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 291); "No" on the Johnson amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 292); "No" on the Rogers amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 293); "Yes" on the Shays amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 294); "Yes" on the Kucinich amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 295); "Yes" on the Simmons amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 296); "Yes" on the Reyes amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 297); "No" on the Johnson amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 298); "Yes" on the motion to recommit H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 299); "No" on final passage of H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 300).

June 24—"Yes" on H. Res. 685 (rollcall vote No. 301); "No" on the previous question (rollcall vote No. 302); "No" on the rule for H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 303); "Yes" on H. Res. 676 (rollcall vote No. 304); "No" on the Brady amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 305); "No" on the Chocola amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 306) "No" on the Castle amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 307); "No" on the Hensarling amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 308); "No" on the Hensarling amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 309); "No" on the Kirk amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 310); "No" on the Ryan amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 311); "No" on the Ryan amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 312); "No" on the Ryan amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 313); "Yes" on the Spratt substitute to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 314); "No" on the Hensarling substitute to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 315); "No" on the Kirk substitute to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 316); "Yes" on the motion to recommit (rollcall vote No. 317); "No" on final passage of H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 318); "No" on H. Res. 691 (rollcall vote No. 319).

— "A HERO WALKED AMONG US" —

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, last Sunday, the people of Massachusetts, and particularly of the town of Sharon in my Congressional district, lost a great priest to illness. Father Robert Bullock exemplified the virtues of the priesthood. He was a wise, loving, kind man of great compassion and unimpeachable integrity. His death at 75 saddened all who knew of him and indeed all who knew of his great work. On Tuesday, June 22, the Boston Herald published a pithy but profound editorial about the death of this wonderful priest and I ask that it be reprinted here.

[From the Boston Herald, June 22, 2004]

A HERO WALKED AMONG US

Heroes come in many forms, often shaped by their times.

The Rev. Robert W. Bullock, who died this weekend at age 75, had been an everyday kind of hero for a very long time. A chaplain at Brandeis University and later a parish priest in Sharon, he forged lasting ties with the Jewish community, visiting Israel, writing on the Holocaust and speaking out against anti-Semitism.

But when the scandal of clergy sexual abuse broke, Father Bullock went from quiet hero to noisy and courageous critic of the church hierarchy and Bernard Cardinal Law in particular. He headed the Boston Priests Forum, which called on Law to step down in December 2002.

His was a courage born of faith, the kind of courage that will truly be missed around here. But the inspiration that his life was lives on.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following statement appear in the appropriate place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD behind the votes for Thursday, June 24, 2004: unfortunately, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present for the recorded Rollcall votes Nos. 301–319, I would have voted in the following way:

No. 301, H. Res. 685—Resolution offered by Mr. OBEY of Wisconsin revising the concurrent resolution on the budget for FY 2005. I would have voted "yes."

No. 302, On ordering the previous question providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 4663. I would have voted "no."

No. 303, Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4663—Pay-as-you-go Budget Enforcement bill. I would have voted "no."

No. 304, H. Res. 676—40th Anniversary of passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. I would have voted "aye."

No. 305, Brady/Turner Amendment to establish a Commission on Elimination of Federal Agencies. I would have voted "no."

No. 306, Chocola Amendment to replace the 20 budget functions with a one page budget that divides spending into 5 categories. I would have voted "no."

No. 307, Hastings/Castle amendment to eliminate the requirement to include 20 budget functions and replace it with 4 basic pieces of budget data. I would have voted "no."

No. 308, Hensarling #11 Amendment setting yearly caps on total entitlement spending. I would have voted "no."

No. 309, Hensarling #12 Amendment which would have provided for an automatic Continuing Resolution if spending bills are not passed by the beginning of the fiscal year. I would have voted "no."

No. 310, Kirk Amendment which would require the CBO to report by February 15 on spending priorities exceeding projections. I would have voted "no."

No. 311, The Ryan (WI)/Gutknecht amendment converting the concurrent resolution on the budget into a joint resolution. I would have voted "no."

No. 312, Ryan (WI)/Neugebauer on the lock box approach to budget savings. I would have voted "no."

No. 313, Ryan (WI)/Stenholm/Castle—an amendment providing for expedited rescissions. I would have voted "no."

No. 314, Spratt Substitute—To extend the PAYGO requirement through September 30, 2009. I would have voted "yes."

No. 315, Hensarling Substitute which sets yearly caps on total entitlement spending. I would have voted "no."

No. 316, Kirk Substitute—Caps spending on all entitlements other than Social Security, medicare and Railroad Retirement. I would have voted "no."

No. 317, Motion to Recommit—The Stenholm motion would restore the Pay-as-you-go law requiring both taxcuts and spending be paid for. I would have voted "yes."

No. 318, Final Passage of H.R. 4663—Pay-as-you-go Budget Enforcement bill. I would have voted "no."

No. 319, H. Res. 691—Congratulating the interim government of Iraq on its assumption of full responsibility and authority as a sovereign government. I would have voted "yes."

SUPPORTING NEARLY 200,000 AMERICANS WORKING TO SECURE, RECONSTRUCT AND ESTABLISH STABILITY IN IRAQ

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the nearly 200,000 American servicemen and women, civilian government officials and private contractors working to secure, reconstruct and establish stability in Iraq. Their collective service and sacrifices, and the sacrifices made by their families in their absence, are to be honored and profoundly respected.

The brave and proud people of Iraq also deserve to be recognized for enduring a very difficult and often violent transition from brutal authoritarian rule to the beginnings of self-rule. There remains years of work ahead by the Iraqi people and their journey will be difficult and bloody, but the path to an open, stable and prosperous Iraq now lies ahead of them.

The current situation in Iraq and the June 30, 2004 transfer of limited sovereignty requires U.S. policy makers and elected leaders to examine the very difficult reality of today and tomorrow with determination and honesty, rather than the best-case planning and irrational optimism that has plagued the occupation for the past twelve months. The U.S. occupation will continue on July 1, 2004 and tens of thousands of Americans remain working in a very dangerous war zone for an indefinite number of months or years.

Today, over one hundred Iraqis and three American soldiers were killed in a series of coordinated attacks across Iraq. Hundred more Iraqis were seriously wounded. Yet, today in this House we debate House Resolution 691 which calls for the American people to "celebrate the restoration of freedom in Iraq" with the June 30th transfer of authority. The absurdity and contradiction between the reality in Iraq and this resolution's call for Americans to celebrate in the face of a murderous day and difficult days, months and years ahead is something I cannot support.

Iraq is a war zone, where guerilla-style attacks take place everyday and our troops operate in an extremely hazardous environment.